



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**A STATEMENT FROM UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESIDENT
RICHARD C. ATKINSON FOR LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY'S
60TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY FESTIVAL**

On behalf of the University of California I would like to welcome everyone to the Los Alamos National Laboratory's special 60th Anniversary Family Festival and congratulate you on 60 years of tremendous service to our nation.

I regret that Senior Vice President Bruce Darling and I cannot be with you today but on behalf of the University of California, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the remarkable work that you are doing to fulfill the mission of the laboratory, as well as the strong support and commitment that your families provide in your endeavors.

This year has been a momentous one for Los Alamos National Laboratory. It has been a year of controversy – and, yes, it has been a year of significant change and uncertainty.

But it also has been a year for celebration as we mark 60 years of partnership with the federal government to perform a national service that enhances our nation's safety and security at home and abroad. This year we are celebrating 60 years of scientific contributions that have changed how our nation and our world respond to nuclear science and national security. These 60-years of contributions – and not the events of the last six months – are what will endure in the nation's memory.

As I said at the 60th anniversary commemoration last April, the University hopes that this year will mark the beginning of another 60 years of service to the nation. The need has never been greater. As our country continues to deal with security threats at home and abroad, the work that is being done at this national lab is as important, if not more so today, then at any other time. Your commitment to the mission of this lab is critical to ensuring that Los Alamos preserves its place as a premier institution of national security science.

I am particularly pleased that the Laboratory has included Culture Day as part of today's celebration. Recognizing the diversity and increasing awareness about the laboratory workforce is critical to our success.

As you spend time today with your colleagues and your families, I urge you to reflect for a moment on the tremendous contributions this laboratory has made to our nation and how your work continues to enhance the laboratory community and help the laboratory meet its mission goals. Again, on behalf of the University of California and myself, thank you for your work, your perseverance and your commitment to the mission of the laboratory - it is greatly appreciated by the university and the nation.